Response to Office Action of March 21, 2008

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

Claims 10, 11 and 14 to 16 have been amended. The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

## **Listing of Claims**

Claims 1 to 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (currently amended): A heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising:

an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding having a contour capable of attaching the ironing board cover to the ironing board in the form-fitting manner, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The heat-resistant ironing board cover as recited in claim 10 A heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising:

an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board;

wherein the padding has a bottom including at least in part a nonwoven or fabric layer interacting with a second nonwoven or fabric layer on a top of the ironing board after the ironing board cover is placed on the ironing board, the non-woven or fabric layer interacting with the second non-woven or fabric layer in a hook-and-loop fastener manner.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The heat-resistant ironing board cover as recited in claim 11 wherein the nonwoven or fabric layer of the padding is provided with loops and the second nonwoven or fabric layer is provided with hooks.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The heat-resistant ironing board cover as recited in claim 11 wherein the nonwoven or fabric layer and the second non-woven or fabric layer are perforated.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The heat-resistant ironing board cover as recited in claim 10 wherein a the contour of the padding corresponds to an ironing board contour and the padding is provided with a peripheral edge having a bulge engaging with a peripheral edge of the ironing board from underneath.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The heat-resistant ironing board cover as recited in claim 14 A heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising:

an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board;

wherein a contour of the padding corresponds to an ironing board contour and the padding is provided with a peripheral edge having a bulge engaging with a peripheral edge of the ironing board from underneath;

wherein the bulge has snap fasteners pressable into corresponding recesses on a bottom of the ironing board.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The heat-resistant ironing board cover as recited in claim 14 A heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising:

an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, the padding directly contacting a bottom of the ironing board;

wherein a contour of the padding corresponds to an ironing board contour and the padding is provided with a peripheral edge having a bulge engaging with a peripheral edge of the ironing board from underneath;

wherein the padding has a material stiffening in an area of the bulge.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The heat-resistant ironing board cover as recited in claim 16 wherein the material stiffening is achieved by partially impregnating the padding with a polymer in the area of the bulge and subsequently cross-linking the polymer.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The heat-resistant ironing board cover as recited in claim 10 wherein the thickness of the padding is 0.2 to 5 cm.

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Claim 19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (previously presented): A method for installing the heat-resistant ironing board cover as recited in claim 10 comprising the steps of:

pressing the elastic padding over edges of the ironing board so that the padding is form fitted to the ironing board.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 20 wherein the elastic padding is form fitted solely via bulges connecting at the edges.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A heat-resistant ironing board cover comprising:

an elastic padding, the ironing board cover being connectable in a form-fitting manner to an ironing board via the padding, wherein a contour of the padding corresponds to an ironing board contour and the padding is provided with a peripheral edge having a bulge engaging with a peripheral edge of the ironing board from underneath, the padding has a material stiffening in an area of the bulge, wherein the material stiffening is achieved by partially impregnating the padding with a polymer in the area of the bulge and subsequently cross-linking the polymer.

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